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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044473
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 SIG-01 MMO-01 FAA-00 EB-08
DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07
EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 OC-06 CCO-00 COME-00 /086 R

DRAFTED BY: SY/CC/TAG:SSTAUFFER
APPROVED BY: SY/CC:JOHN PERDEW
A/SY: VHDIKEOS
M/CT: RPMYERS
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R 282333Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALDIP

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INFORM CONSULS FOR RSOS, TSOS, AND PSOS

C O R R E C T E D COPY (MRN SHOULD READ 044473 VICE 444473)

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS

SUBJECT: TERRORIST YEAST BOMB

ON FEBRUARY 16, 1977, THE FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY (FAA) REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND REQUESTED IT BE PASSED TO ALL POSTS OVERSEAS. QUOTE INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ELEMENTS HAVE DEVELOPED AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE EMPLOYING A UNIQUE YEAST-BASED TIMING MECHANISM. THE BOMB DEVICE IS DESCRIBED AS A GLASS BOTTLE WITH A FLASHLIGHT BATTERY ATTACHED TO ITS DIE. THE BATTERY IS WIRED TO A DETONATOR INSIDE THE BOTTLE AND TO THE TIMING MECHANISM. THE TIMING MECHANISM IS A
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PAGE 02 STATE 044473

HYPODERMIC SYRINGE WHICH CONTAINS A YEAST/SUGAR/WATER MIXTURE. THE GAS GIVEN OFF BY THE MIXTURE ALLOWS THE PLUNGER OF THE SYRINGE TO MAKE CONTACT, CLOSING THE CIRCUIT. THE SYRINGE IS INSERTED INTO A CORK WHICH IS THEN PLACED IN THE MOUTH OF THE BOTTLE. VARIATIONS IN THE YEAST/ SUGAR/WATER RATIOS ALLOWS TIMING OF THE DEVICE FROM TEN MINUTES TO 24 HOURS. FAA COMMENT: THIS IS ANOTHER VARIETY

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

OF CHEMICAL TYPE TIMING DEVICES WHICH HAVE TURNED UP IN PAST YEARS. OTHERS HAVE BEEN SULPHURIC ACID AND PING PONG BALLS, ACID AND RUBBER BALLOONS, BEANS AND WATER IN A JAR, ETC. ALL ARE INACCURATE AS TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. WHEN THE TEMPERATURE IS LOW THEN THE ACTION IS SLOW; HIGH TEMPERATURE RESULTS IN FAST ACTION. A VARIANCE OF SOME 50 PERCENT OR MORE CAN RESULT FROM TEMPERATURE ALONE. THOSE TIMES NOTED ABOVE CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED ACCURATE FOR THE TEMPERATURE AND CIRCUMSTANCES AT THE TIME OF TESTING. UNQUOTE.

WRITER'S COMMENT: "DIE" ASSUMED TO BE THE CORK OF THE BOTTLE. VANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: OC,CCO,COME PLS TAKE AS ORIGINAL

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLOSIVES, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE044473
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SY/CC/TAG:SSTAUFFER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770103-0288, D770070-0187
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977021/aaaaabam.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: a0391fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SY
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3228691
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORIST YEAST BOMB ON FEBRUARY 16, 1977, THE FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY (FAA) REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND REQUESTED I
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, XX
To: ALL POSTS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0391fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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